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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/862,637	05/22/2001	Angela G. Dusevic	5460-00401	8671

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EXAMINER	
JARRETT, SCOTT L	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
3623	

DATE MAILED: 06/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/862,637	DUSEVIC ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Scott L. Jarrett	3623	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 5/22/2001.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) 1-88 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on 8/24/01 is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: Task Oriented Information Display

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

> Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

3. Claims 1-88 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

The basis of this rejection is set forth in a two-prong test of:

(1) whether the invention is within the technological arts; and

(2) whether the invention produces a useful, concrete, and tangible result.

For a claimed invention to be statutory, the claimed invention must be within the technological arts. Mere ideas in the abstract (i.e., abstract idea, law of nature, natural phenomena) that do not apply, involve, use, or advance the technological arts fail to promote the "progress of science and the useful arts" (i.e., the physical sciences as opposed to social sciences, for example) and therefore are found to be non-statutory subject matter. For a process claim to pass muster, the recited process must somehow apply, involve, use, or advance the technological arts.

Additionally, for a claimed invention to be statutory, the claimed invention must produce a useful, concrete, and tangible result.

In the present case, claims 1-88 merely recite a method/system for displaying task and task related information based on a user's selection (access) and therefore does not produce a useful, concrete and/or tangible result. The claimed invention, as a whole, does not product a useful, concrete and/or tangible result therefore claims 1-88 are deemed to be directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Regarding Claims 83-88, claims 83-88 do not utilize the proper computer program product format and effectively recite a signal per se (descriptive material, similar to software). Claims 83-88 are therefore deemed to be directed to non-statutory subject matter where there is no indication that the proposed signal is tangibly embodied on a signal carrying (bearing) medium and capable of execution by a computer.

Correction required. See MPEP § 2106 [R-2].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-88 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Marpe et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,671,693.

Regarding Claims 1, 26, 37, 48, 52, 60, 68 and 83 Marpe et al. teach a method and system for managing and disseminating project information/data via a task-oriented user interface over the Internet (Abstract; Column 1, Lines 36-43; Column 9, Lines 10-27; Column 13, Lines 50-61; Column 17, Lines 19-65; Figure 7 as shown below).

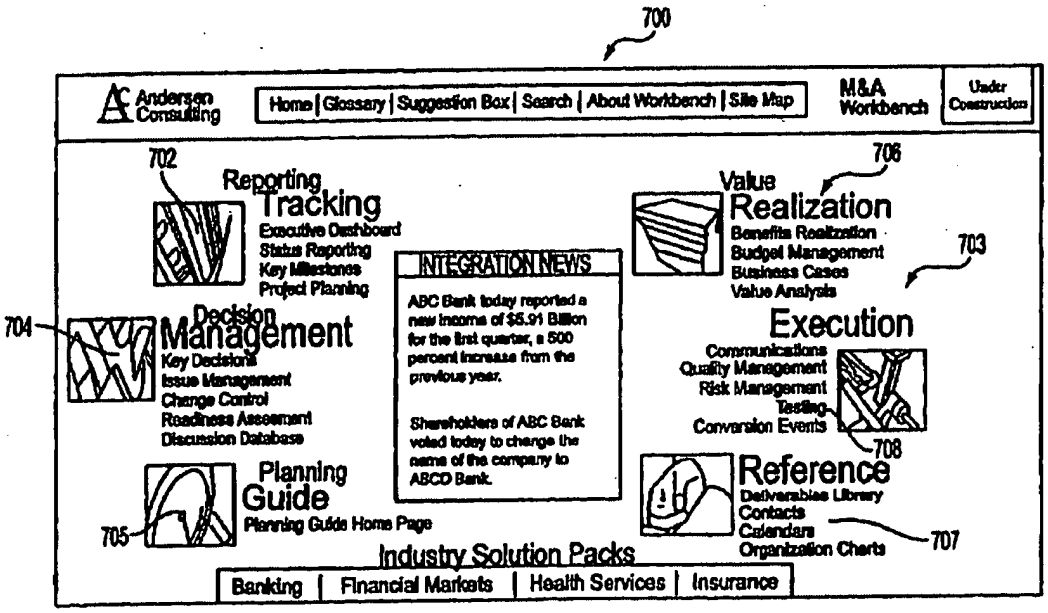

FIG. 7

More specifically Marpe et al. teach that the system and method for assisting users in performing tasks related to their field of endeavor comprises:

- enabling users to access and select information on one or more tasks (user-selectable, task/activity/topic/knowledge centric user interface, active task; Column 13, Lines 18-68; Column 14, Lines 1-19; Figure 7 as shown above; Figures 4, 16, 19 as shown below);

- displaying one or more (plurality) tasks items (information, activities; Column 13, Lines 18-68; Figure 25);

- associating one or more sub-task items (nested/hierarchical activities) with the one or more tasks (phases, topics, etc.; Column 13, Lines 50-68);

- displaying tasks details in response to user's selection of a tasks/subtask (currently active task; Column 11, Lines 4-11; Column 13, Lines 18-68; Figures 3-4, 5, 15-18);

- wherein the task information includes information for use in assisting user in performing one or more portions of at least one tasks ("activity box"; Figure 16, Element 1610; Column 49, Lines 43-68; Column 50, Lines 21-68; Figure 19);

- updating display based on user selection (active task; Column 13, Lines 18-68; Column 50 Lines 21-43); and

- user interface to a knowledge base (Column 13, Lines 18-20; Figures 3-4, 6-7, 15-16, 18-19).

200	NAVIGATION CHEVRON
202	DISCRETE PHASE CHEVRONS
400	EXEMPLARY GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE

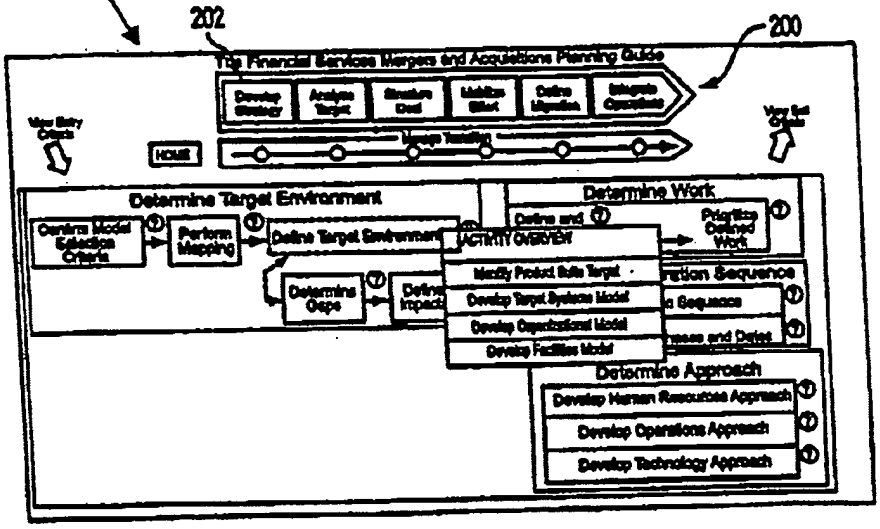

FIG. 4

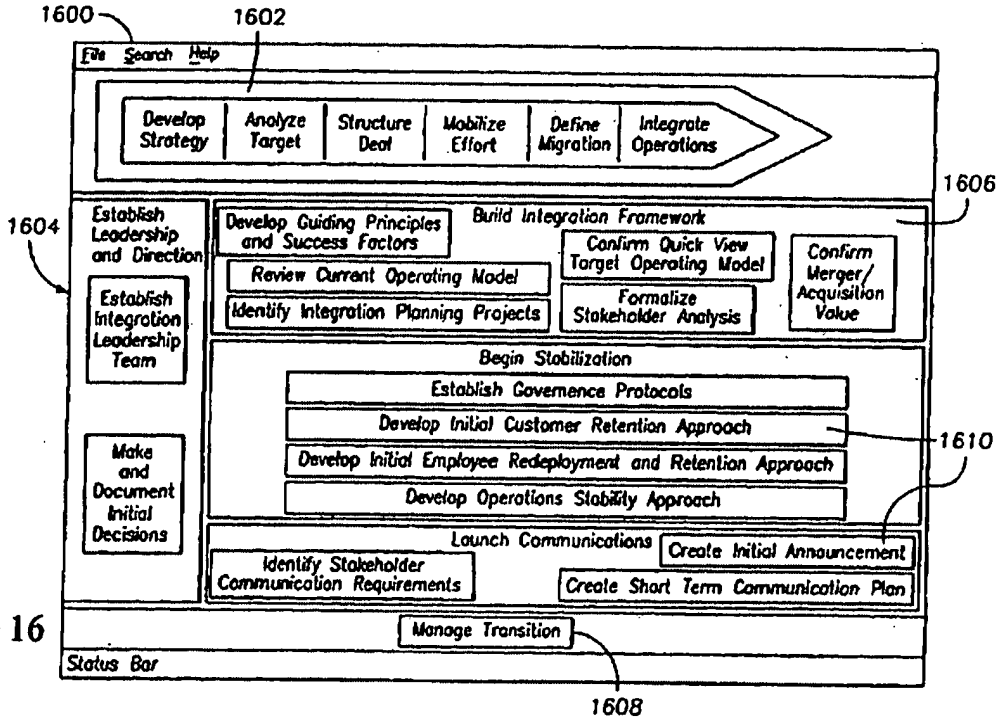

Figure 16

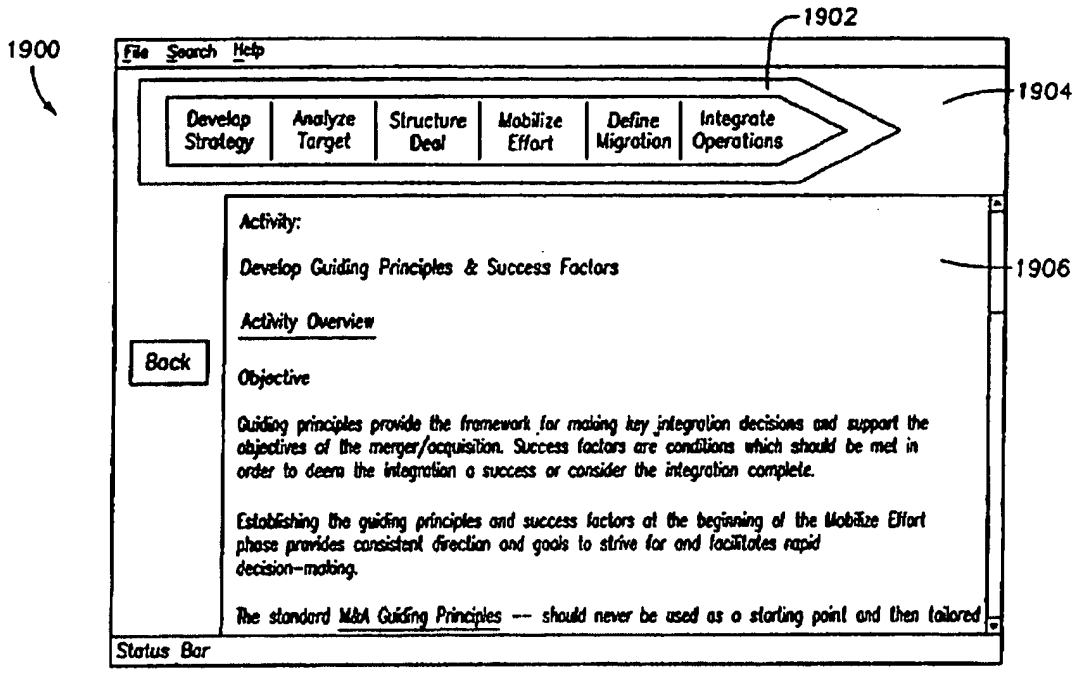

Figure 19

Marpe et al. does not expressly teach that the system for assisting users in performing tasks is utilized in upstream exploration and production areas of the oil and gas industry as claimed.

However, Marpe et al. teach a system and method that is applied to a plurality of industries/field of endeavors (industry solution packs, industries; Column 51, Lines 54-68; Column 52, Lines 1-54) each endeavor having a plurality of associated tasks/activities (i.e. not specifically limited to a particular industry). That the task information is for the oil and gas industry is obvious in light of the prior art since the intended field of use does not change the overall functionality of the system. The intended use must result in a manipulative difference as compared to the prior art. See

In re Casey, 152 USPQ 235 (CCPA 1967) and In re Otto, 136 USPQ 458, 459 (CCPA 1963).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify (adapt) the method and system for assisting end users in performing tasks (activities, projects, etc.) to be utilized in any of a plurality of industries and/or field of endeavors as taught by Marpet el., e.g. adapting the system to for use in the upstream exploration and production areas of oil and gas industry the tasks/activities associated with this industry/field of endeavor being old and well known, wherein the industry specific/adapted system's knowledge management and delivery capabilities would assist end users in performing industry specific tasks/activities thereby expediting the project/task learning process and improving the user's ability to perform the industry specific project/tasks (Column 9, Lines 9-25; 44-59).

Regarding Claims 2, 29, 40, 53, 61, 70 and 84 Marpe et al. teach that the system for assisting users in performing tasks further comprises

- the user selection of a task detail item (first, second, etc.; "activity box"; Figure 16, Element 1610; Column 49, Lines 43-68; Column 50, Lines 21-68; Figure 19);

- displaying the task details in response to the users selection wherein the task detail includes a plurality of data/information (Column 13, Lines 18-68); and

- wherein the information is related to performing one or more tasks (Column 13, Lines 50-65).

Marpe et al. does not expressly teach a method and system for assisting end users in performing tasks (i.e. task oriented information display) wherein task detail information includes information about one or more product and/or services provided by a vendor as claimed.

Official notice is taken that providing information regarding products, services, goods, and the like via the Internet in relation to specific user goals (needs, wants, activities, etc.) is old and very well known. More generally it is well known that information systems (e.g. web sites, applications) are designed and implemented using user-centric/user-goal oriented design.

For example, a company providing solutions (systems, hardware, software, etc.) to the energy industry would structure its web site, using user-centered design techniques, so as to guide users accessing the site to the solution (i.e. product, service or combination of product and services) to their problem (need, task, activity) wherein the solution information would include detailed information on the products and/or services applicable (used, available) to the task/problem.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the method and system for assisting users in performing tasks, specifically the systems' in-depth and task-centric knowledge base for facilitating the learning and execution tasks/activities in a field of endeavor, as taught by Marpe et al. to include

information related to products, services, goods, or the other relevant information to assist the user in performing a task/activity; the resultant system providing in-depth information to the user about the currently selected task/activity thereby facilitating the learning and execution of that task/activity (Column 9, Lines 10-15).

Regarding Claims 4-5, 31-32, 56, 64 and 72 Marpe et al. teach a system and method for assisting users in performing tasks wherein the task detail display (screen) comprises at least one (one or more) icons which display, when selected, additional information related to finding a solution to a particular problem and further wherein the additional information includes at least one of the following (one or more): textual information, graphical information, video information and/or audio information (Column 10, Lines 25-53; Column 11, Lines 4-11; Column 50, Lines 39-42; Figures 3-4, 6-7, 18-19, 25).

Regarding Claims 6-7 and 44 Marpe et al. teach a system for assisting users in performing tasks wherein the task detail display (page, screen, etc.) includes at least one (one or more) item that is user selectable to display other or another portion of the task detail information (display, screen, frame; Column 49, Lines 43-68; Column 50, Lines 1-68; Figures 16, 18-19).

Regarding Claims 8-9 Marpe et al. teach that the system for assisting users in performing tasks further comprises:

- providing at least one (one or more) personal displays (personalization, customization, dynamic pages, Column 8, Lines 22-38; user profiles, discussion group list, etc.; Column 16, Lines 46-65; Column 42, Lines 41-51; Table 39); and

- enabling the user to add a link (bookmark, favorite) to task details to one or more personal displays (the web browser, as shown in Figure 6, enables users to bookmark (add to favorites, personal links) any of the web pages in the system; Column 19, Lines 15-16); and

- wherein the customized/personalized web pages (displays, screens) are provided by a web server (Column 19, Line 18; Column 8, Lines 22-38; Figure 17, Element 1702)

Regarding Claims 10, 27 and 38 Marpe et al. teach a system and method for assisting users in performing tasks wherein the task detail information includes a plurality of information relating the task/activity being performed by the user as discussed above.

Marpe et al. does not expressly disclose that the system for assisting users in performing tasks is utilized use in upstream exploration and production areas of the oil and gas industry or that the task details includes information related to one or more products and/or services for the oil and gas industry as claimed.

However, Marpe et al. teaches a system and method that is applied to a plurality of industries/fields of endeavor (industry solution packs, industries; Column 51, Lines

54-68; Column 52, Lines 1-54) each endeavor having a plurality of tasks/activities associated (i.e. not specifically limited to a specific industry). That the task information is for the oil and gas industry is obvious in light of the prior art since the intended field of use does not change the overall functionality of the system. The intended use must result in a manipulative difference as compared to the prior art. See In re Casey, 152 USPQ 235 (CCPA 1967) and In re Otto, 136 USPQ 458, 459 (CCPA 1963).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify (adapt) the method and system for assisting end users in performing tasks (activities, projects, etc.) to be utilized in any of a plurality of industries and/or field of endeavors as taught by Marpet el., e.g. adapting the system to for use in the upstream exploration and production areas of oil and gas industry the tasks/activities associated with this industry/field of endeavor being old and well known, wherein the industry specific/adapted system's knowledge management and delivery capabilities would assist end users in performing industry specific tasks/activities thereby expediting the project/task learning process and improving the user's ability to perform the industry specific project/tasks (Column 9, Lines 9-25; 44-59).

Official notice is taken that providing information regarding products, services, goods, and the like via the Internet in relation to specific user goals (needs, wants, activities, etc.) is old and very well known. For example, a company providing systems/solutions (hardware, software, etc.) to the energy industry would structure its

web site, using user-centered/goal-oriented design techniques, so as to guide users accessing the site to the solution (i.e. product, service or combination of product and services) to their problem (need, task, activity) and that the detailed information on the solution being offered would include details on the products and/or services applicable (used, available) to the task/problem.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the intention to modify the method and system for assisting users in performing tasks, specifically the system's in-depth and task-centric knowledge base for facilitating the learning and execution tasks/activities/projects in a specific of field endeavor, as taught by Marpe et al. to include information related to products, services, goods, or the like that to assist the user in performing a task/activity; the resultant system providing in-depth information to the user about the currently selected task/activity thereby facilitating the learning and execution of that task/activity (Column 9, Lines 10-15).

Regarding Claims 11, 28 and 39 Marpe et al. teach a system for assisting users in performing tasks (i.e. facilitating the learning and execution of project tasks/activities) wherein the task detail displayed (provided, accessed) is related/associated (linked, nested) with one or more task detail items (information) and further wherein the task details items are associated with one of a plurality of subtasks items and wherein the subtask items are associated with one of a plurality of task items (Column 13, Lines 18-

68; Column 14, Lines 1-19; Column 49, Lines 43-68; Column 50, Lines 1-68; Figures 3-4, 6, 16, 18-19).

Regarding Claims 12, 73 and 85 Marpe et al. teach a system for assisting users in performing tasks wherein the tasks are specific tasks (Column 53, Lines 1-41) and wherein the method and system further comprises:

- accessing a display (second, screen, frame) comprising a plurality of user-selectable individual task items (Column 13, Lines 18-68; Column 49, Lines 43-68; Column 50, Lines 1-68; Figure 16);

- selecting and displaying an individual task item in response to user input wherein the task item is the currently active task item (highlighted, activated, activation, etc; Column 11, Lines 4-11; Column 13, Lines 18-68).

Regarding Claims 13, 74 and 86 Marpe et al. teach a system for assisting users in performing tasks wherein the tasks are high-level tasks (phase, broad topic, topic) that are user-selectable (chosen, selected, clickable) to display information related to the selected high-level task items, and wherein one of the task items is the currently active task item (highlighted, activated, activation, etc; Column 11, Lines 4-11; Column 13, Lines 18-68; Column 51, Lines 26-32; Figure 16).

Regarding 14 and 63 Marpe et al. teach that the system for assisting users in performing tasks further comprises:

- the user selection of a different task item wherein the selected task items becomes the currently active task (highlighted, activated, activation, etc; Column 11, Lines 4-11; Column 13, Lines 18-68; Column 51, Lines 26-32; Figure 16); and

- displaying different one or more user-selectable subtask items associated with the selected task (Column 11, Lines 4-11; Column 13, Lines 18-68; Column 51, Lines 26-32; Figure 16).

Regarding Claims 15-16, 35, 57, 65, 69 and 87 Marpe et al. teach that the system and method for assisting users in performing tasks utilizes user interface software, specifically a web browser and that web pages containing the plurality of task information are displayed by a web server (Column 19, Lines 14-18; Figures 6, 16-17).

Regarding Claims 17, 58 and 66 Marpe et al. teach a system and method for assisting users in performing tasks over the Internet as discussed above. Marpe et al. further teach that the Internet based system and method for facilitating the learning and execution of projects/tasks utilizes well known Internet technologies, architectures, programming languages, and the like (Columns 3-9) which are capable of delivering the method and system for assisting users in performing tasks service/product via an Application Service Provider or an internal/in-house information technology infrastructure.

Marpe et al. does not expressly teach delivering the system for assisting users in performing tasks via an ASP.

It is old and well known that Application Service Providers (ASP) are third parties (companies, businesses) that deploy, host and manage access to packaged applications (systems) to multiple parties from managed facilities over a network (Internet), primarily on a subscription basis, wherein the ASP delivery model/approach speeds implementation (i.e. time to market), minimizes the expenses and risks associated with the development and maintenance of the applications (systems; i.e. spreads those risk between the ASP and the customer), and counters the chronic shortage of qualified technical personnel available in-house.

That an Application Service Provider or an internal information technology division provides the Internet-based method and system for assisting users perform a task is obvious in light of the prior art since the intended field of use (e.g. delivery mechanism, location of the system inside or outside the business) does not change the overall functionality of the system. The intended use must result in a manipulative difference as compared to the prior art. See In re Casey, 152 USPQ 235 (CCPA 1967) and In re Otto, 136 USPQ 458, 459 (CCPA 1963).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to deliver (host) the system and method for facilitating the learning and execution of tasks/activities related to a field of endeavor as taught by Marpe et al. either as an internally or externally hosted/managed system; an externally hosted/managed system (ASP) overcoming the disadvantages of managing/developing such a system in-house by minimizing the expenses and risks associated with the development and maintenance of the system.

Regarding Claims 18-25, 36, 47, 49-51, 59, 67, 75-82 and 88 Marpe et al. teach a method and system for assisting users in performing tasks related to business and information management (Column 51, Lines 55-68; Column 52, Lines 1-54).

Marpe et al. does not expressly teach that the system for assisting users in performing tasks is utilized in the oil and gas industry (upstream exploration and production areas) or subsequently that the task information is related to at least one (one or more) of the disciplines associated with upstream exploration or production ares in the oil and gas industry (e.g. geology, geophysics, drilling, production engineering, reservoir engineering).

However, Marpe et al. teach a system and method that is applied to a plurality of industries/fields of endeavor (industry solution packs, industries; Column 51, Lines 54-68; Column 52, Lines 1-54) each endeavor having a plurality of associated tasks/activities (i.e. not specifically limited to a specific industry). That the task

information is for the oil and gas industry and/or specific disciplines in the industry is obvious in light of the prior art since the intended field of use does not change the overall functionality of the system. The intended use must result in a manipulative difference as compared to the prior art. See In re Casey, 152 USPQ 235 (CCPA 1967) and In re Otto, 136 USPQ 458, 459 (CCPA 1963).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to utilize the method and system for assisting end users in performing tasks in a plurality of industries/fields of endeavor/disciplines as taught by Marpe et al. to provide knowledge management and delivery capabilities to facilitate the learning and execution of industry projects/tasks thereby improving the users ability to manage the industry project/tasks as well as expediting the project/task learning process (Column 9, Lines 9-25; 44-59).

Regarding Claim 55 and 71 Marpe et al. teach a system for assisting users in performing tasks wherein the textual information comprises at least one (one or more) item associated with other task detail displays and wherein (Column 10, Lines 25-53; Column 11, Lines 4-11; Column 50, Lines 39-42; Figures 3-4, 6-7, 18-19, 25):

- the user selects one of the plurality of items; and
- displaying (providing) task detail display/information in response to the user selected item.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Marpe et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,581,039, teach a system and method for assisting users in performing tasks related to a plurality of industries/fields of endeavor. Marpe et al. further teach that the user task assistance system and method provides a plurality of project information ranging from high-level phases/topics to detailed activity/sub-activity related information via an intuitive Internet based user interface.

- Ernst, Johnannes, U.S. Patent No. 6,591,278, teaches a method and system for assisting users in performing a plurality of tasks/activities wherein the system provides for the management (storage, access, interrelation, etc.) of project data/information thereby enabling diverse and distributed teams to collaborate concurrently on a wide variety of projects over the Internet.

- Marpe et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,671,692, teach a method and system for navigating a project knowledge base via an graphical user interface over the Internet wherein the system assists users in performing a plurality of tasks at various levels of detail.

- Fredell et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,678,698, teach a method and system for managing project information in a task oriented manner, in an analogous art of assisting users in performing tasks, over the Internet wherein the system utilizes a graphical user interface (screen, display) to access a plurality of project information including but not

limited to task information, frequently asked questions, project data (documents, calendars, etc.) and the like.

- Aubry et al., U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0054717, teach the well-known and commercial use/availability of application service providers (ASP) in the oil & gas (energy, petroleum, etc.) industry as a mechanism for assisting users in performing a plurality of tasks (e.g. exploration, geology, geophysics, production engineering, reservoir management, etc.). Aubry et al. further teaches that the ASP provides project data management capabilities/features wherein a plurality of project/task information is provided to users for assisting users in performing tasks related to the oil and gas industry.

- Nielsen, Jakob, Designing Web Usability, teaches well-known method, techniques and approaches for designing/developing Internet based information systems.

- Rosenfeld, Louis et al., Information Architecture for the World Wide Web, teaches well-known and widely practiced information architecture, techniques, method, and the like. Information Architecture is an approach to designing clear, understandable communications by giving care to structure, context, and presentation of data and information or more specifically the design of the structure of information systems and includes such things as labeling and navigation schemes/techniques. Rosenfeld teaches that one of the classic mistakes in developing a web site is structuring/organizing "the site like the company's own org chart instead of reflecting the users' view of the service."

- Cooper, Alan, About Face, teaches the essentials of user centered/goal directed design for systems (software applications).

- Fleming, Jennifer, Web Navigation, teaches a plurality of well known and widely practiced information navigation (access, information architecture, web navigation) approaches/methods including but not limited to designing for users (e.g. not having your web site mirror your organizational chart), commonly referred to as user-centered design wherein systems developed using this approach focus on the goals/tasks of the user and design the system to achieve those goals/support those tasks.

- Pyron, Tim, Using Microsoft Project 2000, teaches that Microsoft Project 2000 provides a method and system for assisting users in performing tasks related to their field of endeavor wherein the system provides a graphical user interface over the Internet (Project Central) that enables users to manage and access a plurality of information related to project tasks, subtasks, activities, phases and the like. Pyron further teaches that Project Central enables users to select/access/click one or more tasks and have displayed task details, subtasks and a plurality of other information.

- Haliburton – a service company for the 21st century, teaches the computer based method and system for assisting users in performing tasks (integration and data management) related to the oil & gas industry (e.g. upstream/downstream exploration, production, etc.) commercially available from Landmark Graphics.

- Landmark Graphics Delivers OpenWorks Development Kit free over the World Wide Web, teach the commercial availability and use of OpenWorks "the industry's most standard data model for project data management."

- Gordon, Phillip, Track projects on the web, teaches the well-known and commercial availability/use of Application Service Provides (ASP) to provide project management services (products) over the Internet thereby assisting users in performing tasks related to their industry/field of endeavor.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Scott L. Jarrett whose telephone number is (571) 272-7033. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hafiz Tariq can be reached on (571) 272-6729. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SJ
6/3/2005

TARIQ R. HAFIZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600